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of the extent and completeness of our collection may be formed from the fact that in these two families alone it includes 946 trays. The Columbelloidæ and Cypræadæ are now undergoing like revision, the latter by Mr. S. R. Roberts."

There have been no changes made in the By-Laws of the Section.

The officers of the Section for 1883 are :—

<i>Director,</i>	.	.	.	W. S. W. Ruschenberger.
<i>Vice-Director,</i>	.	.	.	John Ford.
<i>Recorder,</i>	.	.	.	S. Raymond Roberts.
<i>Secretary,</i>	.	.	.	John H. Redfield.
<i>Librarian,</i>	.	.	.	Edw. J. Nolan.
<i>Conservator,</i>	.	.	.	Geo. W. Tryon, Jr.
<i>Treasurer,</i>	.	.	.	Wm. L. Mactier.

Respectfully submitted, on behalf of the Conchological Section, by

S. RAYMOND ROBERTS,
Recorder.

REPORT OF THE BOTANICAL SECTION.

The Vice-Director of the Botanical Section takes great pride in reporting, that notwithstanding the agreeable reports he has had to make in former years, he believes the prosperity of the work of the Section has been greater during this than any former one. Meetings have been held in all but the two summer months, and many valuable facts communicated, some of which have been repeated before the general meetings of the Academy, and published in its Proceedings. There are no debts of any consequence against the Section, while its Treasurer reports a balance on hand of \$119.92. During the year one member has resigned, and it has lost one by death. The officers elected for the ensuing year are as follows :—

<i>Director,</i>	.	.	.	Dr. W. S. W. Ruschenberger.
<i>Vice-Director,</i>	.	.	.	Thomas Meehan.
<i>Recorder,</i>	.	.	.	F. Lamson Scribner.
<i>Cor. Secretary,</i>	}	.	.	Isaac C. Martindale.
<i>Treasurer,</i>	}	.	.	
<i>Conservator,</i>	.	.	.	J. H. Redfield.

It seems almost superfluous to repeat what has been so often said before in these reports, that the voluntary work of the mem-

bers is not equal to the task of placing the magnificent Herbarium of the Academy on the footing it is worthy of occupying, unless some competent botanist could be employed within a reasonable time. Still in the hope that the Academy may soon see its way to aid them, the members continue to do what they can; and the Section has very great pleasure in adopting the report of its Conservator, as part of its report of the work of the year.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS MEEHAN,
Vice-Director.

Conservator's Report.—The additions to the Herbarium of the Academy during the past year, exceed those of any year since the organization of the Section, being estimated at 3346 species, of which more than one-third were new to the collection, and adding more than 100 genera not before represented.

For a large proportion of these we are indebted to the zeal and liberality of our own members, who have evinced a laudable desire to perfect the Academy's collection, by filling its desiderata, and by improving the character of the representation of species already possessed. Special thanks are due to Messrs. Canby, Parker, Martindale, Meehan and others, for their efforts in this direction.

But we have also been favored with most liberal donations from other sources. From Dr. Gray, of the Cambridge Herbarium, we have received more than 1000 species. Among them we may specify a second collection of plants made in the Kuram Valley, Afghanistan, in 1880, by Major J. E. T. Aitcheson, and valuable accessions from China, Formosa, Japan, Australia and Tasmania; also a fine series of the polypetalous plants of our Mexican border, collected by Schaffner, Havard, Palmer and others, which, supplementing a collection of Palmer's plants from one of our own members, give us a very full representation of the plants of the Texo-Mexican region.

Baron F. von Müller, of Melbourne, Australia, has sent us, through Mr. Meehan, 284 species of Australian plants, many of them desiderata, and from Prof. Sargent, of the U. S. Forestry Commission, we have received choice herbarium specimens of some of the rarer trees and shrubs of our western regions. A more complete list of the donations for the year will be appended.

The care and labor incident to the reception of these additions have been great, and though the Conservator has received most essential assistance from Messrs. Parker, Burk, Meehan and Scribner, he has had little time left to devote to the improvement of the condition of the herbarium. Yet something has been done in this way. Provisional lists of species in the general herbarium have been completed nearly to the end of the polypetalous orders. In the North American Herbarium, the orders Ranunculaceæ, Saxifragaceæ, and a few smaller orders have been mounted by the aid of Mr. Parker, who has also contributed liberally to the filling of gaps in these orders, for this purpose placing his own collection entirely at the disposal of the Conservator.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN H. REDFIELD,
Conservator.

REPORT OF MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SECTION.

The Director of the Mineralogical and Geological Section would respectfully report :—

Meetings of the Section have been held regularly through the year, with a fair attendance, but the papers read have not been as numerous as in former years. The additions to the Collection have been satisfactory.

On the evening of October 15th, by request of the members of the Microscopical and Biological Section, our Section met with them, the subject under consideration being Microscopic Mineralogy. By the courtesy of the former Section a large number of microscopes, many of them very fine instruments, were exhibited, and by means of them specimens of minerals and rocks were examined. This was the first joint meeting of Sections since the passage of the amendment to the By-laws removing the prohibition against it, and its success was beyond question.

Respectfully submitted,

THEO. D. RAND,
Director.